

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-9 of the present application are currently pending. Of these claims, claims 1-3, 5 and 7-9 stand rejected, whereas claim 6 is objected to.

Reconsideration of the patentability of the above claims is respectfully requested, in view of the remarks setout hereunder.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 USC § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Hikida, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,549,195).

In this regard, the Examiner has stated that:

Hikida teaches a touch screen display comprising a pressure tolerant display including a plurality of interference modulation elements (i.e., material LC); and a touch screen (20) directly coupled to the display (10) (col. 4, lines 29-65).

(p. 2, Office Action 07/30/03).

The applicant however, respectfully disagrees with the Examiner in this regard.

One limitation of claim 1 includes “a pressure-tolerant display including a plurality of interference modulation elements.” Hikida, et al. disclose a touch panel for use in a liquid crystal display device (see Abstract). The device includes a polarizer plate and a liquid crystal material. As with all liquid crystal display devices, the purpose of the liquid crystal material is to transmit polarized light, between a first polarizing filter and a second polarizing filter. The liquid crystal material can be activated to rotate the polarization of the light transmitted to the second polarizing filter so that in one case the polarization of the light matches the second polarizing filter and is therefore able to pass through the second polarizing filter, and in another case, the polarization of the light does not match the second polarizing filter, so that the light cannot pass

through the second polarizing filter. Based on the foregoing, it will be seen that liquid crystal display devices do not operate on the principle of interference. Thus, the display device of Hikida, et al. does not include a plurality of interference modulation elements, as recited in claim 1.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Hikida, et al. do not teach or suggest all limitations of claim 1, and accordingly, cannot anticipate or render obvious claim 1.

Given that claims 7-9 depend on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by Hikida, et al.

Moreover, the combination of Hikida and Nitta (U.S. Patent No. 6,275, 220), fails to teach or suggest “a pressure-tolerant display including a plurality of interference modulation elements,” as recited in claims 1-9. Accordingly, the combination of Hikida and Nitta fails to teach or suggest all limitations of claims 1-9, and therefore cannot anticipate or rendered obvious claims 1-9.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the remarks set forth herein, all rejections have been overcome. All pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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